

REMARKS

In the above-mentioned Office Action, claims 44, 45, 47-81, 84, 86-103 were allowed. Claims 104 and 106-108 were rejected. Claims 104 and 107-108 were rejected under Section 102(e) over Lieberman, and claim 106 was rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Lieberman and Lichtenberg.

The Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 44, 45, 47-81, 84, 86-104, and 106-10.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 104 and 106-108 over Lieberman, alone or in combination with Lichtenberg, is respectfully requested.

Lieberman has an effective date of no earlier than October 26, 1999. The present application claims priority, amongst others, to U.S. Patent Application serial number 29/108,876 (now U.S. Patent Number Des 433,460), filed on August 5, 1999, earlier than the earliest effective date of Lieberman. Figure 7 of the priority application of serial number 29/108,876 is reproduced below:

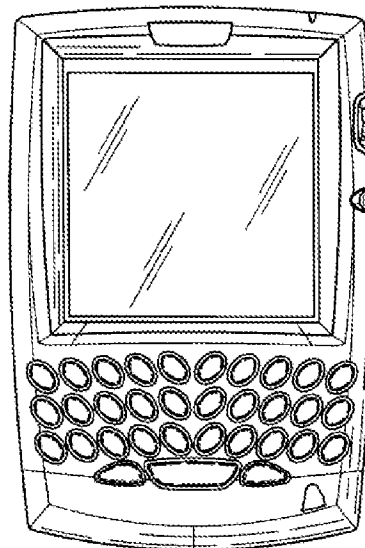


Fig. 7

Figure 7 discloses a hand-held electronic device having a longer dimension and a shorter dimension, the longer dimension defining a major axis, all as recited in independent claim 104. Lieberman is therefore believed to be an improper reference, in light of its later effective date than that of the priority application of application serial number 29/108,876, for use against the claims of this patent application.

Lieberman is also believed to be an improper reference to be used against dependent claims 106-108.

Lichtenberg, cited merely for showing a QWERTY keyboard having three rows of keys, fails to disclose a housing having dimensions as now-recited.

Because Lieberman is believed to be an improper reference and because Lichtenberg fails to disclose the structure recited in claims 104 and the dependent claims that are dependent thereto, the claims, as presently-presented, are believed also to be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reconsideration for allowance of claims 104 and 106-108, in light of the foregoing, is respectfully request, and grant of notice of allowance of all of the pending claims of the patent application is respectfully requested. Such early action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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